Message Text

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ACTION XMB-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 OPIC-03

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8438

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, ECRE, JM

SUBJECT: JAMAICA PUBLIC SERVICE - STATUS OF PROJECTS AND

PLANS

REF: (A) KINGSTON 2534; (B) A-77, MAY 15, 1975; (C) A-200, NOV. 21, 1974; (D) JAN. 2, 1975 EXIM BANK MEMO TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS COVERING HUNTS BAY NO. 7 PLANT; (E) KINGSTON 102

PLEASE PASS EXIM BANK

1. ON JULY 29, COMOFF INFORMED BY JPS FINANCIAL COMPTROLLER OF STATUS JPS PROJECTS AND PLANS.

A) HUNTS BAY NO. 7 STEAM POWER PLANT (REF. A): BIDS FOR THIS PROJECT STILL UNDER CONSIDERATION. JPS DISAPPOINTED AT FINANCING TERMS FROM ALL BIDDERS, WHO GENERALLY WERE UNABLE TO OFFER THE LONGER PERIODS OF REPAYMENT TYPICAL OF LOANS IN THE PAST. JPS WOULD LIKE A MINIMUM OF 17 YEARS TO REPAY LOAN AND DEPRECIATE STEAM POWER PLANT OVER 25 YEARS. (NOTE: IN EARLIER DISCUSSION WITH EXPATRIATE ENGINEER EMPLOYED WITH COMSTOCK, THE CANADIAN CONSULTING FIRM FOR JPS, EMBASSY UNDERSTOOD THAT OUT OF ALL BIDS, BROWN BOVERI OF SWITZERLAND WAS LOWEST. NEVERTHELESS, ACTUAL AWARD WILL PROBABLY GO TO BIDDER OFFERING BEST FINANCING TERMS.)

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B) (REF. B) WELLS FARGO \$4 MILLION LOAN UNDER STUDY BY

GOJ LAWYERS. PROPOSAL TO PROVIDE GOJ GUARANTEE FOR LOAN MUST STILL BE TABLED IN JAMAICAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR APPROVAL.

C) (REF. C) JPS STILL AWAITS FAVORABLE IDB DECISION REGARDING ITS REQUEST FOR \$20 MILLION LOAN FOR RUAL ELECTRIFICATION.

- D) JPS WILL LIFT FUEL SUBSIDY INTRODUCED IN OCTOBER 1974 WHICH WAS DESIGNED TO SOFTEN IMPACT OF ELECTRIC COSTS TO THE CONSUMER. SUBSIDY WILL BE LIFTED, ONE HALF ON JULY 1, 1975 AND OTHER HALF ON APRIL 1, 1976. TOTAL COST OF SUBSIDY WAS J\$10 MILLION PER YEAR.
- 2. IN ADDITION, JPS PURCHASING OFFICER INFORMED COMOFF THAT (REF. E) T.O. HAD BROUGHT IN EXCELLENT PRICES AND PRODUCT LITERATURE NOW UNDER INTENSE EVALUATION BY JPS. JPS PURCHASING STAFF EXPECTS TO MAKE TRIP TO U.S. IN NEAR FUTURE TO PROCURE MATERIALS BEFORE ANTICIPATED STATESIDE DEMAND FROM RESURGENT U.S. ECONOMY FORCES PRICES UPWARD. ONE SALE, \$339,629.75 HAS ALREADY RESULTED FROM (REF. E) FOR ATLANTIC CREOSOTING INTERNATIONAL SALES CORP., P.O. BOX 1608, SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31402.
- 3. FINALLY, JPS CONSIDERING POSSIBILITY OF STANDARDIZING ITS PURCHASES TO SIMPLIFY INVENTORY CONTROL AND SAVE MONEY. GERARD

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Message Attributes

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